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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON ITS RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1995*

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* The present document is a preliminary version of the part of the report of the Economic and Social Council relating to the resumed substantive session of 1995. The final report will be issued in Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/50/3/Rev.1).

The resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council at the organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1995 and at the substantive session of 1995 were issued initially in documents E/1995/INF/4 and Add.1 and 2. Those adopted at the resumed substantive session will be issued in document E/1995/INF/4/Add.3. The resolutions and decisions will be issued in final form in Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 1 (E/1995/95).

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Chapter III

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. The Council resumed its consideration of the question of coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system (agenda item 3) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 60th meeting, on 12 December 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1995/SR.60). It had before it a letter dated 24 October 1995 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Economic and Social Council, enclosing copies of the letters exchanged by the Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, setting out a framework for cooperation between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (E/1995/125).

Arrangements governing the framework for cooperation between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization and regarding the status of the International Trade Centre

2. At the 60th meeting, on 12 December, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note with satisfaction of the letter dated 24 October 1995 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Council, enclosing copies of the letters exchanged by the Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It noted the recommendation in the letters exchanged that present arrangements governing the status of the International Trade Centre as a joint body should be confirmed and renewed with the World Trade Organization and that the name of the Centre would accordingly become International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (see Council decision 1995/322).

A. Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

3. The Council resumed its consideration of the question of coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (agenda item 3 (a)) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 60th meeting, on 12 December 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1995/SR.60). It had before it a note by the Secretary-General on possible common themes for follow-up of major international conferences at the coordination segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 1996 (E/1995/129).

Coordination segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 1996

4. At the 60th meeting, on 12 December, on the basis of the informal consultations carried out by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Enrique Tejera-París (Venezuela) and on the proposal of the President, the Council decided that the theme to be addressed during the coordination segment of its substantive session of 1996 would be "Coordination of the activities of

the United Nations system for poverty eradication". The focus should be on three areas: (a) coordination of United Nations support for and availability of resources to the United Nations system for facilitating national poverty eradication plans and programmes as well as the provision of basic social services, particularly at the field level; (b) coordination of United Nations efforts to ensure that all its activities for poverty eradication take fully into account the gender perspective; and (c) ways of monitoring the performance of the United Nations in the field of poverty eradication, in the context of the harmonization of the multi-year programmes of work of the functional commissions of the Council, in accordance with the thirteenth paragraph of agreed conclusions 1995/1 (see Council decision 1995/321, paras. (a) and (b)).

5. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Council also decided that at its organizational session for 1996 it would allocate a number of meetings, within the general segment of its substantive session of 1996, to determine how to ensure harmonization and coordination of the agendas and multi-year programmes of work of its functional commissions (see Council decision 1995/321, para. (c)).

6. A statement was made by the observer for Spain on behalf of the States members of the European Union.

Chapter V

SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

D. Human rights questions

1. The Council resumed its consideration of social, humanitarian and human rights questions: human rights questions (agenda item 5 (d)) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 58th and 59th meetings, on 25 October and 2 November 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1995/SR.58 and 59). It had before it the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1995/124 and Add.1).

Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples

2. At the 58th meeting, on 25 October, the Council considered a draft decision entitled "Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1995/124, para. 6).

3. The Secretary of the Council read out corrections and two additional operative paragraphs to the draft decision contained in document E/1995/124.

4. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (for the final text, see Council decision 1995/317 A).

5. Before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, the Philippines (in her capacity as Chairperson of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations), Canada, Brazil and Mexico, and the observers for Algeria, New Zealand and Peru.

6. The Director of the Division for Policy Coordination and Economic and Social Council Affairs also made a statement.

7. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Chile, Australia, the Philippines (in her capacity as Chairperson of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations) and the Sudan.

8. At the 59th meeting, on 2 November, the Council considered a draft decision entitled "Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1995/124/Add.1, para. 5).

9. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision (for the final text, see Council decision 1995/317 B).

E. Advancement of women

10. The Council resumed its consideration of social, humanitarian and human rights questions: advancement of women (agenda item 5 (e)) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 60th meeting, on 12 December 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1995/SR.60). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/160 concerning the proposal of a merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/50/747-E/1995/126);

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/50/785-E/1995/128).

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

11. At the 60th meeting, on 12 December, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the note by the Secretariat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/160 (A/50/747-E/1995/126) and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/50/785-E/1995/128) and decided to refer them to the General Assembly for consideration (see Council decision 1995/323).

F. Social development questions

12. The Council resumed its consideration of social, humanitarian and human rights questions: social development questions (agenda item 5 (f)) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 58th to 60th meetings, on 25 October, 2 November and 12 December 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1995/SR.58-60). It had before it the note by the Secretariat containing the final draft of the world programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond (E/1995/123 and Corr. 1 and 2).

Approval of the final draft of the world programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond

13. At the 58th meeting, on 25 October, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. George Papadatos (Greece), informed the Council of the results of the open-ended informal consultations held on the final draft of the world programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond.

14. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the Russian Federation and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the observer for Spain (on behalf of the States members of the European Union).

15. At the 59th meeting, on 2 November, the Council approved the final draft of the world programme of action for youth to the year 2000 and beyond, as revised (E/1995/123 and Corr. 1 and 2).

16. Before the final draft of the world programme of action was approved, statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana, Chile, France, South Africa, Brazil, India, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Canada, and the observers for the Dominican Republic, Spain (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, Zambia, Antigua and Barbuda, and Peru. The representative of Egypt made a statement of reservation.

17. After the final draft was approved, the representatives of the Sudan, the United States of America and Pakistan made statements of reservation.

World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

18. At the 59th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Austria, the Czech Republic, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Portugal and Romania, introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/1995/L.69) entitled "World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond". The revisions were as follows:

(a) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "including the Youth Forum" were deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 2, the words "non-governmental and private sectors" were replaced by the words "non-governmental organizations, as well as the public and private sectors".

19. At the same meeting the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (for the final text, see Council resolution 1995/64).

20. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Egypt.

Special session of the Commission for Social Development in 1996

21. At the 60th meeting, on 12 December, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Enrique Tejera-París (Venezuela), reported on the informal consultations held on the substantive theme to be considered by the Commission for Social Development at its special session in 1996.

22. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Council decided that the theme to be considered by the Commission for Social Development at its special session would be "Strategies and actions for the eradication of poverty: (a) formulation of integrated strategies; (b) meeting the basic human needs of all; and (c) promotion of self-reliance and community-based initiatives". It also decided that the special session would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 21 to 30 May 1996 (see Council decision 1995/324).

Chapter VI

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS

E. Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

1. The Council resumed its consideration of the question of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (agenda item 6 (e)) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 60th meeting, on 12 December 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1995/SR.60).

Membership of the Commission on Population and Development

2. At the 60th meeting, on 12 December, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. George Papadatos (Greece), reported on the informal consultations held on the membership of the Commission on Population and Development.

3. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Council decided that the membership of the Commission on Population and Development should be increased from 27 to 47 and that the distribution of seats among the regional groups should be as follows: African States, 12 members; Asian States, 11 members; Eastern European States, 5 members; Latin American and Caribbean States, 9 members; and Western European and other States, 10 members (see Council decision 1995/320, para. (a)).

4. The Vice-President of the Council, Mr. George Papadatos (Greece) then introduced a draft decision, which read as follows:

> "Members of the Commission on Population and Development should be elected by the Economic and Social Council from among the States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies before the opening of the twenty-ninth session of the Commission."

5. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision (see Council decision 1995/320, para. (b)).

6. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements of reservation were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Norway, the Philippines (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Canada, Japan, India, Uganda, and Egypt, and the observers for Spain (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and Algeria.

Q. Public administration and development

7. At its 60th meeting, on 12 December 1995, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the question of public administration and development (agenda item 6 (q)) until 1996 (see Council decision 1995/325).

Chapter XII

PROGRAMME AND RELATED QUESTIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

1. The Council resumed its consideration of programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields (agenda item 12) at its resumed substantive session of 1995. It considered the item at the 58th meeting, on 25 October 1995. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1995/SR.58). It had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996 and 1997 in the economic, social and related fields (E/1995/L.20 and Add.1 and 2).

Calendar of conferences and meetings

2. At the 58th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (E/1995/L.67) entitled "Calendar of conferences and meetings", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/207 B of 11 December 1987 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993,

"Bearing in mind its resolution 1988/77 of 29 July 1988, in which it was decided that the Council should further continue to consider the biennialization of the sessions of its subsidiary bodies,

"Taking note of the note by the Secretariat on the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996 and 1997 in the economic, social and related fields (E/1995/L.20 and Add.1),

"Noting the recommendations of the Committee on Conferences contained in the letter dated 22 June 1995 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1995/101),

"Expressing its concern that the number of subsidiary bodies that have been mandated to annualize their sessions has, in view of the limited secretariat services available, inter alia, for meetings and documentation, adversely affected the efficient utilization of conference-servicing resources,

"1. Decides to biennialize the meetings of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Committee for Development Planning and its three working groups, the Economic Commission for Africa and its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council a draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields, beginning with the biennium 1997-1998 and bearing in mind paragraph 1 of the present resolution."

3. At the same meeting, the Council decided to defer consideration of the draft resolution.

Future sessions of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests

4. At the 58th meeting, on 25 October, the Council had before it a draft decision (E/1995/L.68) entitled "Future sessions of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests", recommended by the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its first session for adoption by the Council.

5. The Secretary of the Council read out the following statement of conference-servicing implications relating to the draft decision, to be incorporated into the programme budget implications:

> "By draft decision E/1995/L.68, it is proposed to extend the duration of the second session of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, to be held in Geneva, from one week to two weeks (from 11 to 22 March 1996). It should be noted that the Committee on Conferences, in considering the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1996-1997, as contained in document A/50/32, recommended, inter alia, that the General Assembly approve the change in location of the session from New York, the established headquarters of the Panel, to Geneva, and grant an exception to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 40/243.
>
> "The meeting will require interpretation and documentation (180 pages pre-session, 25 pages in-session and 32 pages post-session) in all six official languages.
>
> "It should be noted that the draft decision also calls for the third session of the Panel to be held from 2 to 13 September 1996 at a venue to be determined. The holding of the session away from New York, the established headquarters of the body, would again require an exception to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 40/243.
>
> "It is assumed that conference-servicing requirements for the extended second session would be met from within resources under section 26E, (Conference services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997."

6. The Council then adopted draft decision E/1995/L.68 (for the final text, see Council decision 1995/318).

Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields

7. At the 58th meeting, on 25 October, the Council approved the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996 and 1997 in the economic, social and related fields as contained in document E/1995/L.20 and Add.1 and 2, and as revised by Council decision 1995/318 (see Council decision 1995/319).

8. After the approval of the calendar of conferences, the representative of Japan informed the Council that a previously submitted draft resolution contained in document E/1995/L.55, entitled "Programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice", had been withdrawn by the sponsors.

Chapter XIII

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS

1. The Council held elections at its resumed substantive session of 1995 under agenda item 1.

2. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the election of 36 members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1995/130).

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

3. At its 60th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, the Council elected the following States for a term beginning on 1 January 1996: Angola, Cameroon, Finland, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Sweden, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (see Council decision 1995/326).

Annex

AGENDA OF THE RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1995
ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS 58TH PLENARY MEETING,
ON 25 OCTOBER 1995

1. Adoption of the agenda.

Coordination segment

3. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme:

   (a) Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

General segment

5. Social, humanitarian and human rights questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

   (d) Human rights questions;

   (e) Advancement of women;

   (f) Social development questions.

6. Economic and environmental questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

   (e) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

   (q) Public administration and development.

12. Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields:

   (b) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for the biennium 1996-1997.